

TO: White House Cabinet Affairs Communications

FR: EPA Office of Public Affairs

DT: **Thursday, August 10, 2017**

Upcoming Friday, August 11, 2017: N/A

Upcoming next week:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

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Upcoming week of 8/21: Admin. Pruitt travels to Mexico, California, Idaho, and Nebraska

Inquiries

HQ

- ABC News (Milana Vinn) Possible investigations of pet harm incidents related to Hartz flea and tick products.
- AP (Seth Borenstein); Bloomberg (Jennifer A. Dlouhy); Reuters (David Shepardson); New York Post (Marisa Shultz); The Hill (Timothy Cama); Fox 5 in DC (Brendan O'Connell); Cox Media Group (Alison Burns); ABC News (Daniel Steinburger); S&P Global (Annalee Armstrong); ABC News-Washington (Stephanie Ebbs); NBC Washington (Scott MacFarlane); NHK Japan Broadcasting Corporation (Alicia Rose); Hearst TV (Wendy Wilk); KFI News Radio (Brooke Peterson); E&E News (Kevin Bogardus); Politico (Alex Guillen) Inquiry regarding report of shots being fired at EPA HQ.
- CQ Roll Call (Jackie Toth) Questions on state applications to gain authority over their CCR programs.
- Law360 (Adam Lidgett) Seeking comment on Utah asking the EPA for \$1.9 billion in damages related to the GKM spill.
- Reuters (Chris Prentice) Inquiry regarding lobbying by oil refiners regarding point of obligation.
- USA Today (N'dea Yancey-Bragg) Ways to save energy at home.

Regional

- Durango Herald (Jonathan Romeo) Inquiry regarding technology in the Bonita Peak mining district.
- Iowa Public Television (Colleen Krantz) General questions on dicamba drift incidents.
- Durango Herald (Jonathan Romeo) Inquiry regarding technology in the Bonita Peak mining district.
- Gary Post Tribune (Javonte Anderson) Seeking comment on climate change report.
- Pittsburgh Tribune-Review (Theresa Clift) Compliance by PWSA and Borough of Braddock with lead and copper rule.
- Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Ashley Murray) Grandfathering in of engines before diesel-engine restrictions began.
- Wyoming Public Radio (Alanna Elder) Climate adaption.
- Bloomberg News (Ben Elgin) Reporter requested information regarding Puerto Rico Limpio, particularly the organization's funding sources.

Top Stories

Coverage from Pruitt's Visit to Iowa and North Dakota: <http://bit.ly/2wLwcvL>

Need to Know Network: Pruitt: It Took 'Tremendous Courage' to Pull Out of Paris and Put America First:

<http://ntknetwork.com/pruitt-it-took-tremendous-courage-to-pull-out-of-paris-and-put-america-first/>

Washington Post: New York Times Guilty of Large Screw-Up on Climate Change Story:

https://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/erik-wemple/wp/2017/08/09/new-york-times-guilty-of-large-screw-up-on-climate-change-story/?utm_term=.209c6c2d9486

WBAP Texas EPA Chief Scott Pruitt Interview: <http://www.wbap.com/2017/08/10/morning-news-epa-chief-scott-pruitt-interview/>

Top Issues and Accomplishments

Administrator Pruitt takes his State Action Tour to Texas: <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/photos-administrator-pruitt-takes-state-action-tour-texas>

EPA, DOT Open Comment Period On Reconsideration of GHG Standards for Cars and Light Trucks:

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-dot-open-comment-period-reconsideration-ghg-standards-cars-and-light-trucks>

PHOTOS: Administrator Pruitt Takes State Action Tour to North Dakota:

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/photos-administrator-pruitt-takes-state-action-tour-north-dakota>

EPA Issues Guidance on State Coal Ash Management Permit Programs:

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-issues-guidance-state-coal-ash-management-permit-programs>

EPA Awards Kansas \$499,000 Grant for Air Quality Programs: <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-kansas-499000-grant-air-quality-programs>

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Washington Post: New York Times Guilty of Large Screw-Up on Climate Change Story:

https://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/erik-wemple/wp/2017/08/09/new-york-times-guilty-of-large-screw-up-on-climate-change-story/?utm_term=.209c6c2d9486

Top Issues and Accomplishments

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To: Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**
Cc: Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**
From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Mon 7/24/2017 12:27:06 PM
Subject: Re: Politico Playbook 7/24/17

Hi Brad - The statement below is what was sent to NYT yesterday:

Administrator Pruitt is committed to serving the President by leading the Environmental Protection Agency; he is not running for elected office. The Administrator's travel, whether to Utah, Michigan or Oklahoma, all serves the purpose of hearing from hard-working Americans about how EPA can better serve the American people.

from my iPhone

On Jul 24, 2017, at 8:22 AM, Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy wrote:

Adding the rest of the EPA team **Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process**

From: Shah, Raj S. EOP/WHO
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2017 7:24 AM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Cc: Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO <**Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**>; Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO <**Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**>; Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO <**Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**>; Ditto, Jessica E. EOP/WHO <**Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**>; Kennedy, Adam R. EOP/WHO <**Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**>
Subject: FW: Politico Playbook 7/24/17

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Hemming, Andrew J. EOP/WHO
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2017 7:22 AM
To: Boza-Holman, Sofia M. EOP/WHO <**Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**>; Cheung, Steven EOP/WHO <**Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**>; Ditto, Jessica E. EOP/WHO <**Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**>; Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO <**Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**>

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
 ; Ferre, Helen A. EOP/WHO
 Fetalvo, Ninio J. EOP/WHO
 > ; Grisham, Stephanie A. EOP/WHO
 Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy Henning, Alexa A. EOP/WHO
 Hulse, Elliott Y. EOP/WHO
 ; Kennedy, Adam R. EOP/WHO
 Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO
 Parkinson, Andrew Z. EOP/WHO
 > ; Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO
 Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy Ross, Tyler E. EOP/WHO
 Sadler, Kelly J. EOP/WHO
 Sanders, Sarah H. EOP/WHO
 > ; Shah, Raj S. EOP/WHO < Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy >;
 Shoemaker, Clay M. EOP/WHO < Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy >; Short, Michael C.
 EOP/WHO < Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy > Sims, Cliff D. EOP/WHO
 Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy Strom, Natalie M. EOP/WHO
 ; Walters, Lindsay E. EOP/WHO
 >

Subject: FW: Politico Playbook 7/24/17

This stat may get some play:

NYT'S LISA FRIEDMAN: "Scott Pruitt, the head of the Environmental Protection Agency, traveled to his home state, Oklahoma, 10 times over three months this year, largely at taxpayer expense, according to a report released Monday.

"The findings from the Environmental Integrity Project, a nonprofit group founded by former E.P.A. officials, are drawn from Mr. Pruitt's calendar and the travel expenses he has submitted for reimbursement. Obtained under the Freedom of Information Act, the documents show Mr. Pruitt spent 43 out of 92 days from March through May in Oklahoma or traveling to or from the state." ><http://nyti.ms/2uP4Vvn><

From: RNC War Room [<mailto:Warroom@gop.com>]
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2017 7:03 AM
Subject: Politico Playbook 7/24/17

WHAT JARED TOLD INTEL COMMITTEES -- Senate Dems launch 'A Better Deal' agenda -- GROWING CONSENSUS: GOP in disrepair -- PRIEBUS 'sidelined' -- 'WAR' in White House on Afghanistan options -- JOE AND MIKA on NYMAG cover

Politico Playbook

Jake Sherman, Anna Palmer & Daniel Lippman

July 24, 2017 – 6:45 AM

<http://www.politico.com/tipsheets/playbook/2017/07/24/what-jared-told-intel-committees-senate-dems-launch-a-better-deal-agenda-growing-consensus-gop-in-disrepair-priebus-sidelined-war-in-white-house-on-afghanistan-options-joe-and-mika-on-nymag-cover-221475>

Good Monday morning. BREAKING AT 6 A.M. -- WHAT JARED KUSHNER IS SUBMITTING TO HILL INTELLIGENCE PANELS -- 4 CONTACTS WITH RUSSIANS -- ANNIE KARNI, “Kushner defends himself ahead of Senate intel meeting: ‘I did not collude’”: “In pre-written testimony Jared Kushner plans to submit before the Senate Intelligence Committee on Monday -- a high-stakes, closed-door grilling session that is part of the investigation into possible collusion between Russian officials and the Trump campaign -- the powerful son-in-law will try to explain away his four contacts with Russian officials during the general election and the transition as innocent interactions. In an 11-page opening statement provided to reporters early Monday morning ahead of his 10 a.m. appointment with the Senate, Kushner attempts to exonerate himself, writing: ‘I did not collude, nor know of anyone else in the campaign who colluded, with any foreign government.’ Instead, Kushner paints a picture of himself as a loyal, overworked, under-experienced senior adviser to his father-in-law during a novice campaign that was never staffed up to win.

“The former real estate developer also blames the glaring omissions on his security clearance forms -- which did not originally include several meetings with Russian officials that have since come to light -- on an honest mistake made by his assistant at the time. And like others in the Trump orbit who met with Russian Ambassador Sergey Kislyak before Inauguration Day, Kushner also said he had trouble remembering the official after their first brief, previously unreported encounter at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D.C. ...

“His second interaction with a Russian official was the now infamous Donald Trump, Jr. meeting with the Russian lawyer, Natalia Veselnitskaya, that June. Kushner claims he had no idea what he was walking into. An email from his brother-in-law reminds him of the time change to 4 p.m. for the Trump Tower meeting, and Kushner writes that it was not abnormal to pop into each other’s offices for meetings. ‘That email was on top of a long back and forth that I did not read at the time,’ he writes. ‘Documents confirm my memory that this was calendared as ‘Meeting: Don Jr.| Jared Kushner. No one else was mentioned.’ ... ‘I actually emailed an assistant from the meeting after I had been there for ten or so minutes and wrote ‘Can u pls call me on my cell? Need excuse to get out of meeting,’ Kushner writes.” ><http://politi.co/2uYQgxR>< ... **Kushner’s full statement** ><http://politi.co/2uQ62ue><

--INTERESTING TIDBITS: KUSHNER says he is “not a person who has sought the spotlight.” ... A Russian banker brought him “a bag of dirt” from Nvgorod, the village in Belarus where his grandparents are from. ... He got an email from “Guccifer400,” who “threatened to reveal candidate Trump’s tax returns and demanded that we send him 52 bitcoins in exchange for not publishing that information. I brought the email to the attention of a U.S. Secret Service agent on the plane we were all travelling on and asked what he thought. He advised me to ignore it and not to reply -- which is what I did. The sender never contacted me again.”

FIRST IN PLAYBOOK -- HERE IS A NEW VIDEO OF SENATE

DEMOCRATS discussing their new agenda, “A Better Deal.” ><http://bit.ly/2tT11g7>< They say their agenda is designed to “boost wages, lower costs, and unrig the economy to make it work for all Americans, not special interests or just the wealthiest few.” **THE LACK OF A MESSAGE** is one of the major gripes of Hill Democrats.

-- HEATHER CAYGLE and ELANA SCHOR: “Democrats launch economic agenda ahead of 2018 campaign”: “Democrats are adding pitches aimed at battling corporate overreach to an economic platform that already includes a trillion-dollar infrastructure plan and paid family leave. Party leaders are also proposing a new independent agency to oversee prescription drug prices similar to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau launched by Sen. Elizabeth Warren as well as an independent ‘competition advocate’ that would police corporate mergers. ...

“Democrats are launching the agenda under the slogan ‘A Better Deal,’ which POLITICO reported earlier this month. It’s designed as a nod to Franklin D. Roosevelt’s ‘New Deal,’ which helped usher in the modern-day Democratic Party, and also as a dig at Trump, who bills himself as the world’s greatest deal-maker.” ><http://politi.co/2vRaciE><

-- NYT OP-ED: “Chuck Schumer: A Better Deal for American Workers” ><http://nyti.ms/2uPjSxr><

KEEP IN MIND this is the last scheduled week in session for Congress. The Senate has said it will stay into August, but with the health care bill unlikely to pass, it seems likely they could get out of dodge earlier.

-- CONGRESS is likely to leave for August recess without passing a budget, spending bills, an infrastructure package, a bill to lift the debt ceiling and tax reform. **52 DAYS** in session between now and the end of the year.

TRUMP’S MONDAY -- PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP is meeting with “victims” of Obamacare, and will speak about the stalled legislation. Trump will then go to Beaver, West Virginia, to speak at the National Scout Jamboree.

THE GROWING CONSENSUS -- “GOP despairs at inability to deliver,” by Eliana Johnson and Josh Dawsey: “The Republican Party is more powerful than it’s been in more than a decade — and yet it has never seemed so weak. Continuing chaos in the White House has been punctuated by the failure to deliver on the GOP’s seven-year pledge to overhaul Obamacare, and has many asking whether the party can capitalize on the sweeping victories it has achieved at the federal, state, and local levels. Ahead of this week’s crucial Senate vote on health care, White House aides are already considering how to distance President Donald Trump from Congress and how to go after the Republicans who vote no — an idea the president seems fond of, according to people who have spoken to him. Several people said he plans to keep up the fight, no matter how this week’s vote goes.” ><http://politi.co/2vzL0hp><

-- **“Republicans are in full control of government — but losing control of their party,”** by WaPo’s Sean Sullivan and Bob Costa: “Frustrated lawmakers are increasingly sounding off at a White House awash in turmoil and struggling to accomplish its legislative goals. President Trump is scolding Republican senators over health care and even threatening electoral retribution. Congressional leaders are losing the confidence of their rank and file. And some major GOP donors are considering using their wealth to try to force out recalcitrant incumbents. ‘It’s a lot of tribes within one party, with many agendas, trying to do what they want to do,’ Rep. Tom MacArthur (R-N.J.) said in an interview.” ><http://wapo.st/2vQOtaJ><

TARA PALMERI -- “Priebus sidelined as Washington outsiders’ power grows”: “Reince Priebus took the punishing job of President Donald Trump’s chief of staff with the idea that he would stick it out for at least one year. Six months in, with one of his top allies in the West Wing -- press secretary Sean Spicer -- on his way out, Priebus is in defensive mode, his role diminished and an internal rival hogging the limelight. Trump’s decision to bring Wall Street financier Anthony Scaramucci into the role of communications director shows the rising power of political outsiders and the diminished influence of establishment figures -- which Priebus, the former chairman of the [RNC], epitomizes.

“One White House official and two outside advisers said that while Scaramucci was brought into the White House for the communications job, he’s considered an internal candidate to eventually succeed Priebus as chief of staff. There are also a handful of outside candidates. The unexpected hire has raised questions of whether more shake-ups are coming, even as the White House has tried to downplay its internal discord. The instability has made it difficult for the administration to fend off questions about ties between Trump’s 2016 campaign and Russia and to move forward an embattled legislative agenda.

“Despite frequent reports his position is in jeopardy, Priebus hopes to finish out his year, according to people close to him. He is eyeing another big hurdle this week of getting the health care bill to pass through the Senate, defenders said Sunday.” ><http://politi.co/2vQJKFN><

SUSAN PAGE in USA TODAY: “Just six months after his inauguration, Americans already are split down the middle, 42%-42%, over whether President Trump should be removed from office, a new USA TODAY/iMediaEthics Poll finds.” ><https://usat.ly/2ttWDVq><

NYT'S LISA FRIEDMAN: "Scott Pruitt, the head of the Environmental Protection Agency, traveled to his home state, Oklahoma, 10 times over three months this year, largely at taxpayer expense, according to a report released Monday.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT ... : at 4:09 p.m.: "As the phony Russian Witch Hunt continues, two groups are laughing at this excuse for a lost election taking hold, Democrats and Russians!" ... **at 4:14 p.m.:** "It's very sad that Republicans, even some that were carried over the line on my back, do very little to protect their President."

... **at 7:57 p.m.:** "It's hard to read the Failing New York Times or the Amazon Washington Post because every story/opinion, even if should be positive, is bad!" ... **at 8:01 p.m.:** "If Republicans don't Repeal and Replace the disastrous ObamaCare, the repercussions will be far greater than any of them understand!" ... **at 8:23 p.m.:** "Thank you to @LOUDOBBS for giving the first six months of the Trump Administration an A+. S.C.,reg cutting,Stock M, jobs,border etc. = TRUE!"

BARAK RAVID in Haaretz, "Trump Envoy Jason Greenblatt to Arrive in Israel on Monday in Bid to De-escalate Temple Mount Crisis": "A senior official in the Trump administration said that Greenblatt is heading to the region 'to support efforts to reduce tensions in the region.' During his Israel visit, Greenblatt is expected to be in contact with Trump's senior adviser Jared Kushner and keep him updated on the contents of his talks." <http://bit.ly/2uriUEH>

-- WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING, Israel sent an emissary to Jordan after an Israeli security guard killed two people who tried to attack embassy personnel. Israel also closed its embassy and consulates in Turkey due to controversy over

stepped up security at the al Aqsa mosque.

BEHIND THE SCENES -- SUSAN GLASSER: “The Trump White House's War Within”: “Last Monday, President Trump’s senior Cabinet officials and top national security advisers met for a contentious meeting to finally agree on a new strategy for America’s longest war. After months of wrangling, they would ask Trump for a modest troop increase and a more intense commitment to the seemingly endless struggle in Afghanistan.

“But the session of the National Security Council Principals Committee, described by two sources briefed on it as a ‘s*** show’ that featured what a third source, a senior White House official, confirmed was a heated debate where ‘words were exchanged,’ proved no more successful than months’ worth of previous Afghan policy debates. Trump refused to sign off on the plan they approved, the sources said, instead sending it back to his national security team demanding more work. ...

“Trump’s hesitation is also, according to multiple current and former senior U.S. officials I’ve spoken with in recent days, a striking vote of no-confidence in his national security adviser, H.R. McMaster, who has been trying and failing for months to sell the president on a new plan for Afghanistan. McMaster has made a major policy review of America’s long, failed war there his personal mission, according to the sources, and he pushed hard to get a new strategy that would include the relatively modest troop increases and a commitment to at least another four-year timeline approved in advance of Trump’s May summit with NATO allies. But instead, the sources said, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson teamed up with Mattis to block McMaster’s initial version, which they believed Trump and political advisers wary of the war, notably chief strategist Steve Bannon, would not support without clearer markers of success.” ><http://politi.co/2uPVfjF><

-- Glasser also spoke with Laurel Miller, who recently stepped down as acting special representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, for the Global POLITICO Podcast. **Transcript** ><http://politi.co/2tDider>< ... **Listen and subscribe** ><http://apple.co/2kAoZfH><

FIRST IN PLAYBOOK -- ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER was in town on Friday,

and he sat down for 45 minutes with Isaac Dove for the next episode of the Off Message podcast, coming Tuesday. "I wish we could do like John Travolta with Saturday Night Fever, where he starts dancing. He's disco dancing and then all of a sudden, within one year, you have a million more discotheques all over the world," he said. "You wish that you could do the same thing with the environmental issues or in the redistricting or good government practice."

On what he thinks of people like Joe Scarborough leaving the GOP because of Trump: "There's love it and leave, or love it and change it. And I believe in changing. Because in my heart, I'm a Republican. So all of the original Republican principles, I'm with that." Schwarzenegger wants there to be a third party, but not sure if he'd get involved: "I would have to see who is involved because a lot of times, you see those Independents and those are wacky guys also. So you've got to be careful who you bring to bed with you. ... Jesse Ventura started out great, but then he became a forehead. I don't know. Something happened." And here's what he said when Isaac asked him why he thinks he seems to get under Trump's skin: "I think he maybe sees me on the same level, or he feels threatened by that. I could not even tell you." **Subscribe to get the full interview** ><http://apple.co/2kJqk3D><

YIKES! -- "Local governments keep using this software -- but it might be a back door for Russia," by WaPo's Jack Gillum and Aaron C. Davis: "Local and state government agencies from Oregon to Connecticut say they are using a Russian brand of security software despite the federal government's instructions to its own agencies not to buy the software over concerns about cyberespionage, records and interviews show. The federal agency in charge of purchasing, the General Services Administration, this month removed Moscow-based Kaspersky Lab from its list of approved vendors. In doing so, the agency's statement suggested a vulnerability exists in Kaspersky that could give the Russian government backdoor access to the systems it protects, though they offered no explanation or evidence of it. Kaspersky has strongly denied coordinating with the Russian government and has offered to cooperate with federal investigators." ><http://wapo.st/2uXR8mo><

THE JUICE ...

-- **FIRST IN PLAYBOOK:** Rational360's digital team did an analysis of all members of Congress' Twitter accounts and figured out which reporters and media organizations members followed the most. The top 10 reporters: Chad Pergram,

Mike Allen, Chuck Todd, Jake Tapper, Ed O'Keefe, Dana Bash, Manu Raju, Bret Baier, Jake Sherman and Chris Cillizza. ><http://bit.ly/2uPk7rJ><

-- **FROM MORNING MONEY: LAUNCHING TODAY** -- John Dearie emails: "I left the Financial Services Forum at the end of June to launch a new 501(c)(3) organization called the Center for American Entrepreneurship (CAE), which will launch ... Monday ... CAE's purpose is to work with policymakers in Washington, and the state and local levels across the country, to enhance policy circumstances for new business formation, survival, and growth. ...

"[W]e currently have funding from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, Visa, Wells Fargo, UPS, Bank of America, and Goldman Sachs, and are talking with many others."

PLAYBOOK METRO SECTION -- "Dacha fights for a second beer garden on 14th Street," by WaPo's Rachel Chason. ><http://wapo.st/2vR6buw><

PLAYBOOK READS

EZRA COHEN-WATNICK PROFILE -- ROSIE GRAY in The Atlantic, "The Man McMaster Couldn't Fire: Thirty-one year old Ezra Cohen-Watnick holds the intelligence portfolio on the National Security Council -- but almost everything about him is a mystery": "Despite his prominent, and apparently quite secure, position in Trump's NSC, little is known about Cohen-Watnick, who had spent much of his short career as a low-ranking official at the Defense Intelligence Agency. Information about him in publicly available sources is scarce. Few higher-ups from the DIA remember him. Only one picture of him can be found online, a snapshot unearthed by Al-Monitor's Laura Rozen. Unlike other White House officials who have become public figures in their own right, Cohen-Watnick never speaks for himself publicly, leaving others to fill the void. ... Some profess not to know him, or ask why anyone would want to write about him. Others simply refuse to discuss him. 'I won't talk to any journalist about Ezra,' said Michael Ledeen, a Flynn confidant who knows Cohen-Watnick well. 'Is it one of your hit pieces?' asked Bannon." ><http://theatlantic.com/story/ezra-cohen-watnick-profile/2017/06/20>< ... **Pic of Ezra** ><http://bit.ly/2uP8fGw><

TWO GOOD NEW YORKER pieces that just popped -- **“Weathering the Storm:**In a summer of disasters, London’s first Muslim mayor works to preserve Europe’s global city,” by Sam Knight: Sadik “Khan is a student of American politics, and in describing the role of religion in his public identity he often paraphrases John F. Kennedy: he is not a Muslim mayor; he is a mayor who happens to be Muslim. He allays your concerns before they have a chance to form. Khan characterizes himself as a feminist. He is the first mayor to walk in the city’s gay-pride march. But he is also conscious that he has an obligation to talk about and demystify Islam. ... He will quote passages from the Quran and the Hadith, the sayings of the Prophet, when discussing terrorism.” ><http://bit.ly/2vQFRRp><

-- **“Guilty Pleasure: How TV created Donald Trump,”** by Emily Nussbaum: “As it happens, most episodes of Trump on ‘The Apprentice’ are curiously hard to find: they’re not available to stream or download. Only first-season DVDs are for sale, legally, online—and only used ones. The show is not at the Paley Center for Media’s research library, either. (M-G-M, which owns the rights, declined to comment.) ... Rewatching ‘The Apprentice’ more than a decade later, it’s easy to see why it struck a chord. Glossy and upbeat, the show, which debuted after 9/11 but before the economic collapse, introduced itself as a stirring advertisement for Wall Street as a meritocracy. Each episode opens with the earworm ‘For the Love of Money,’ by the O’Jays, with its ‘moneymoneymoneymoney” groove: ‘Talk about cash money! / Dollar bills, y’all.’” ><http://bit.ly/2uo8mrA><

KNOWING MARK MEADOWS -- “Freedom Caucus Chairman Mark Meadows takes a seat at the top table,” by the Washington Examiner’s Al Weaver: ><http://washex.am/2uPKX3d><

-- **INTERESTING NUGGET:** Kellyanne Conway on the support Meadows and his wife gave Trump after the Access Hollywood tape last October: “We will always remember how tenacious and loyal Mark and Debbie Meadows were, especially after Oct. 7. They’re definitely members of what we call the ‘Oct. 8th coalition.’” ><http://washex.am/2uPUIUp><

BUSINESS BURST -- “Wall Street Outlasts Congress on Banker Pay, But Still Loses,” by WSJ’s Telis Demos and Dave Michaels: Trump administration regulators have signaled they want to abandon long-simmering plans to further regulate pay on Wall Street. But aspects of the Dodd Frank law passed in 2010

under President Barack Obama along with changes in the economics of the banking industry have already resulted in tighter compensation controls. Portions of the Dodd-Frank mandate—including making pay more sensitive to risk and long-term results—have made it into guidelines adopted by the Federal Reserve and other agencies. Banking groups have said their members follow the guidelines, but Washington and Wall Street have wrangled for years over whether they need to be locked in with formal rules.

“Last week, regulators including the [SEC] dropped efforts to craft those tougher provisions from their published agendas. Those proposals included longer deferment periods for bonuses and longer periods of time during which the payouts are subject to potential claw backs. An SEC spokesman declined to comment on the changed agenda. But Republican lawmakers and regulatory officials have long complained that Dodd-Frank included many measures unrelated to the financial crisis that spurred its passage.” <http://on.wsj.com/2unDZ4A>

OLIVIA NUZZI with her third cover story for NYMag, **“Donald Trump Is Not Invited to the Wedding:** Joe, Mika, and their star-crossed relationship with the president”: “Because Joe and Mika are perhaps the only masochists alive who operate on this schedule and spend this much time together (a 6-to-9 a.m. show; up as late as 10 p.m., crisscrossing the Northeast corridor for meetings, events, and speeches), it can feel as though they exist in their own private universe. Except they don’t. Between them breathes a sprawling web of three ex-spouses and six children, ranging in age from 9 to 29 (Scarborough quietly divorced his second wife in 2013, while Brzezinski’s marriage ended in 2015).

“It has historically been a preoccupation for them, then, to keep the matter of their relationship and its inconvenient origins out of the press, which they achieved with near-total success — something one New York tabloid veteran told me was astonishing and ‘a lesson for everyone’ in how to ‘tame the gossips.’ ‘I think of the gossip world as extremely transactional, and they were very good at dealing with it,’ the veteran told me. ‘They are total operators: They weren’t above trading one item for another. They took their own PR into their own hands.’” <http://nym.ag/2uoHJTE> ... **The cover** <http://bit.ly/2eH8Gw6>

MEDIAWATCH -- “New York Times requests apology from Fox on ISIS story,” by David Cohen and Hadas Gold: “The New York Times on Sunday took the unusual step of requesting an apology from a competitor, asking ‘Fox & Friends’

to retract a report that the Times was to blame for the 2015 escape of an ISIS leader. Fox subsequently updated the story on its website with the NYT letter. 'I am writing on behalf of The New York Times to request an on-air apology and tweet from Fox & Friends in regards to a malicious and inaccurate segment 'NY Times leak allowed ISIS leader to slip away,' wrote Danielle Rhoades Ha, vice president of communications for the Times." <http://politi.co/2eGvs7p>

-- **"How Trump Got It Wrong in Saying The Times 'Foiled' Killing of ISIS Leader,"** by NYT's Michael R. Gordon: <http://nyti.ms/2tT5UWN>

TV TONIGHT -- "The Beat with Ari Melber," premieres tonight at 6 p.m. on MSNBC. Sen. Cory Booker (D-N.J.) will be the show's debut guest.

PLAYBOOKERS

SPOTTED: Sean Spicer relaxing yesterday afternoon at the Army Navy Country Club pool ... Sen. Marco Rubio and his family enjoying the activities at the Smithsonian American Art Museum's "Superhero Family Day" on Saturday (h/t Laura Lott, president and CEO of the American Alliance of Museums) ... Rep. Luke Messer and family yesterday walking into morning service at McLean Presbyterian Church ... Peter Baker and Susan Glasser at a book party in his honor at Harris Miller and Deborah Kahn's house in northern Virginia, where Peter was born and raised. Former Rep. Tom Davis (R-Va.) and Rep. Jim Moran (D-Va.) also attended ... Joe Lieberman last night at Penn Station in Baltimore boarding the Acela for D.C.

WELCOME TO THE WORLD -- **Brandy Zadrozny**, senior reporter/researcher at The Daily Beast and **Gregory Zadrozny**, a senior art director at Showtime, welcomed Veda Louise Zadrozny, their third child. Veda joins 6 year old Sky and one year old Wilder. **Pics** <http://bit.ly/2uOLJxJ> ... <http://bit.ly/2eH9LUJ>

TRANSITIONS -- MGM Resorts International hired **Debra DeShong** as VP of global industry affairs. She most recently served as EVP and managing director of public affairs at Subject Matter. ... **Brink Lindsey**, most recently the VP for research at the Cato Institute, is joining the Niskanen Center as VP and director of

the Open Society Project. ...

... **Tom Koonce**, an executive director at JPMorgan Chase, is joining the bipartisan lobbying firm Rich Feuer Anderson in August. The firm has Amazon, BlackRock, PwC and SWIFT as clients. ... **Vinay Vijay Singh** is joining KPMG as director of global infrastructure. He was previously deputy assistant secretary at the International Trade Administration in the Obama Commerce Department.

WEEKEND WEDDING -- “Jeremy Bearer-Friend, Thomas Gillespie” -- N.Y.

Times: “Mr. Bearer-Friend, 34, was, until recently, the tax counsel in the Washington office of Senator Elizabeth Warren, Democrat of Massachusetts. In August, he is to begin an appointment as an acting assistant professor of taxation at New York University School of Law. He graduated magna cum laude from Brown, and received a Master of Arts in education from the University of California, Berkeley, and a law degree from Stanford. ... Mr. Gillespie, 30, is the assistant director of children’s programming at PBS in Arlington, Va. He graduated from the College of William & Mary. ... The couple met in June 2013 through OkCupid.” **With pic** ><http://nyti.ms/2tAOblid><

-- **POOL REPORT** from Alex Halpern Levy: “At a historic train depot overlooking the Ohio River, Jeremy, Tommy and a revelrous crew of family and friends from all over the country drank Kentucky bourbon, ate split pea samosas, and danced to the beat of the Beastie Boys. Guests included a large contingent of Warren staffers, the NYT’s Dana Goldstein, and a table of former Senate pages (Tommy once worked as a Mitch McConnell page).” **Pic** ><http://bit.ly/2uYL8tE>< ... **Video of Jeremy breaking the glass** ><http://bit.ly/2tClauA><

BIRTHDAY OF THE DAY: Joel Benenson, founder and CEO of Benenson Strategy Group. **How he got his start in politics:** “Left the NY Daily News in 1994 to work as communications director for then-New York Gov. Mario Cuomo, a giant in Democratic politics. I wanted to be the guy in the room, not the guy writing about the room.” Read his Playbook Plus Q&A: ><http://politi.co/2uZ5Rh4><

BIRTHDAYS: Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-Mo.) ... political cartoonist Pat Oliphant ... Marc Racicot, former RNC chair and Montana governor ... AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka ... Ryan Sims ... WSJ’s Kim “Potomac Watch” Strassel ... John

Brabender, chief creative at BrabenderCox ... CNBC's Eamon Javers ... Jennifer Sarver ... Rob Anderson ... Robert Hoopes, president of Vox Global (h/t Josh Alcorn) ... Juergen Baetz, DPA's Africa bureau chief ... Magee Quick McBride, VP at Jefferies ... Mike Sugerman, journalist at CBS in New York (h/t Jon Haber) ... Kathleen Hennessey, WH editor at the AP ... Rep. Andy Barr (R-Ky.) ... Emily Casarona ... Kerri Briggs of ExxonMobil ... Eli Center ... Chris Bond, communications director for House Majority Whip Steve Scalise ... Michelle Kessel, producer for ABC's "Nightline" ...

... **Barbara Morgan**, former communications director for Anthony Weiner, who is now living and working in Denver ... Sarah Citrenbaum ... Rep. Charlie Crist (D-Fla.) ... Greg Hittelman, comms director at the Enough Project ... former Rep. Vin Weber (R-Minn.) ... Trey Hollern of Porter Novelli ... Colin Peppard ... Will Holloway ... Carmen MacDougall ... Dan Reilly ... Stephen Dinan ... Brian Mooar ... Politico's Katherine Ragsdale ... David Fuscus, president/CEO of Xenophon Strategies ... Maryann Sedlack ... Courtney Carlson (h/t Mom, Margaret) ... Dan Slater ... VJ Sahi ... Jessica Doyle ... Olivia Morgan ... Beth Scully (h/ts Teresa Vilmain)

Disclaimer: The Republican National Committee provided the above article as a service to its employees and other selected individuals. Any opinions expressed therein are those of the article's author and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the RNC.

To: Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy] Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; lincoln.ferguson@epa.gov[lincoln.ferguson@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Thur 3/29/2018 8:44:34 PM
Subject: RE: ABC News: EXCLUSIVE: More cabinet trouble for Trump? EPA chief lived in condo tied to lobbyist 'power couple'

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Thank you!

From: Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2018 4:35 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>; lincoln.ferguson@epa.gov; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: ABC News: EXCLUSIVE: More cabinet trouble for Trump? EPA chief lived in condo tied to lobbyist 'power couple'

Lindsay Walters was asked about this during her press gaggle on AF1. She referred questions back to EPA.

From: Comms Alert [mailto:CommsAlert@gop.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2018 11:30 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] ABC News: EXCLUSIVE: More cabinet trouble for Trump? EPA chief lived in condo tied to lobbyist 'power couple'

EXCLUSIVE: More cabinet trouble for Trump? EPA chief lived in condo tied to lobbyist 'power couple'

ABC News

John Santucci, Matthew Mosk & Stephanie Ebbs

March 29, 2018 – 11:22 AM

http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/exclusive-cabinet-trouble-trump-epa-chief-lived-condo/story?id=54095310&cid=social_twitter_abcpn

For much of his first year in Washington, President Trump's EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt occupied prime real estate in a townhouse near the U.S. Capitol that is co-owned by the wife of a top energy lobbyist, property records from 2017 show.

Neither the EPA nor the lobbyist, J. Steven Hart, would say how much Pruitt paid to live at the prime Capitol Hill address, though Hart said he believed it to be the market rate. The price tag on Pruitt's rental arrangement is one key question when determining if it constitutes an improper gift, ethics experts told ABC News.

"I think it certainly creates a perception problem, especially if Mr. Hart is seeking to influence the agency," said Bryson Morgan, the former investigative counsel at the U.S. House of Representatives Office of Congressional Ethics. "That's why there is a gift rule."

Hart confirmed to ABC News in a brief interview that Pruitt had lived in the flat, which is owned by a limited liability company that links to an address listed to Hart and his wife Vicki Hart, a lobbyist with expertise in the healthcare arena. Steven Hart said Vicki Hart co-owns the condo. He said his wife was not the majority owner, but would not identify her partners.

"I have no ownership interest," he said. "Obviously, I know the owners."

Vicki Hart does no lobbying involving the EPA, her husband said. Her website says she previously worked as a senior health policy advisor for two Senate Majority Leaders before establishing her firm in 2002.

Steven Hart served in the Reagan Justice Department and became, according to his website, is one of the nation's top fundraisers, donating more than \$110,000 to Republican political candidates and committees last election cycle, records show.

In 2010, the newspaper Roll Call referred to the Harts as a "lobbyist power couple."

Mr. Hart is the chairman and CEO of Williams and Jensen, a firm that reported more than \$16 million in federal lobbying income in 2017, according to the Center for Responsive Politics. Among his many clients are the NRA and Cheniere Energy Inc., which reported paying Hart's firm \$80,000 a year.

Hart's firm specifically lobbied on "issues related to the export of liquefied natural gas (LNG), approval of LNG exports and export facilities." The firm also lists on its website that it lobbies on other EPA policies like the Clean Air Act.

Cheniere Energy Inc. owned the only active Liquid Natural Gas export plant in the United States at the time. Liquid natural gas exports was on the agenda for discussion during Pruitt's December 2017 trip to Morocco, according to an agency press release.

On the trip, Pruitt pitched "the potential benefit of liquefied natural gas (LNG) imports on Morocco's economy," the release said.

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The revelations about Pruitt's living situation come as more questions are being raised by members of Congress about his travel habits. The Morocco trip was one of Pruitt's most expensive. ABC News has learned that Pruitt, his head of security, and an additional member of his staff, Samantha Dravis, all flew first class on the trip.

The EPA inspector general expanded an audit of Pruitt's travel to include the Morocco trip in response to a request from Sen. Tom Carper, the ranking Democrat on a

committee with oversight of EPA. Carper specifically asked the agency watchdog to look into whether Pruitt's activities on the trip were "in line with EPA's mission 'to protect human health and the environment.'"

Both environmental groups and members of Congress pointed out that the jurisdiction over natural gas exports typically falls to the Department of Energy - not the EPA.

A spokeswoman for Cheniere Energy declined to comment.

Another lobbying client of Hart's, the railroad Norfolk Southern, spent \$160,000 last year on lobbying Congress on "issues affecting coal usage, oil production, and transportation, including EPA regulation."

Norfolk Southern also declined to comment when reached by ABC News.

Morgan, an ethics expert in private practice in Washington, D.C., said the lobbying connection only further muddies the living arrangement. He said the rental agreement could create ethics problems for Pruitt even if he did reimburse his landlord for rent.

"What are the terms of the rental agreement?" Morgan asked. "It's not just a question if he is paying market rent. Was he given the ability to end it immediately? Would someone come after him if he were not to pay rent?"

Morgan said the most recent guidance from the Office of Government Ethics "emphasized that executive branch officials should decline even a permissible gift if it could cause the public to question their integrity or impartiality."

EPA spokesman Jahan Wilcox declined to answer questions about the arrangement.

Vicki Hart reached on her cell phone, said she would call back to discuss the matter but never did.

Steven Hart declined to address details of the rental agreement, saying it was a private matter and up to Pruitt to decide whether they should be made public.

The White House has not responded to a request for comment from ABC News.

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
Cc: Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]
From: White, Elizabeth
Sent: Tue 5/8/2018 10:38:30 PM
Subject: FW: 2018-003680 -- Definers FOIA (in part)

FYI....

Beth White

Director, Office of the Executive Secretariat

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

(202) 564-1781 direct

(202) 816-1701 cell

From: Grantham, Nancy
Sent: Tuesday, May 8, 2018 6:31 PM
To: Vizian, Donna <Vizian.Donna@epa.gov>; White, Elizabeth <white.elizabeth@epa.gov>
Cc: Showman, John <Showman.John@epa.gov>; Hitchens, Lynnann <hitchens.lynnann@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: 2018-003680 -- Definers FOIA (in part)

Sent from my iPhone

On May 8, 2018, at 5:32 PM, Vizian, Donna <Vizian.Donna@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Vizian, Donna
Sent: Monday, May 07, 2018 10:57 AM
To: Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: 2018-003680 -- Definers FOIA (in part)

FYI

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hitchens, Lynnann" <hitchens.lynnann@epa.gov>
Date: May 7, 2018 at 10:21:29 AM EDT
To: "Vizian, Donna" <Vizian.Donna@epa.gov>, "Showman, John" <Showman.John@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: 2018-003680 -- Definers FOIA (in part)

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process
Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

 See email
below from OGC.

Lynnann Hitchens

Director, Office of Resources, Operations, and Management

Office of Administration and Resources Management

P: 202-564-3184

M: 202-617-0738

From: Sandfoss, Kristina
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 10:42 AM
To: Hitchens, Lynnann <hitchens.lynnann@epa.gov>; Hardy, Michael <Hardy.Michael@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: 2018-003680 -- Definers FOIA (in part)

!!!

From: Miller, Kevin
Sent: Friday, May 4, 2018 10:39 AM

To: Aarons, Kyle <Aarons.Kyle@epa.gov>; Sandfoss, Kristina
<Sandfoss.Kristina@epa.gov>; Knapp, Michael <Knapp.Michael@epa.gov>;
KHATRI, KUSH <Khatri.Kush@epa.gov>
Cc: White, Elizabeth <white.elizabeth@epa.gov>; Gottesman, Larry
<Gottesman.Larry@epa.gov>
Subject: 2018-003680 -- Definers FOIA (in part)

Kyle, Kristina, Mike, and Kush,

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process and Attorney Client

So everyone is on the same page, Mike and Kristina are having a call later today with the requestor to try and get clarification for the other portions of the request .

Kevin

Kevin Miller | US EPA | Office of General Counsel | 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW | WJC North,
Mail Code 2377A | Washington DC 20460 | phone: (202) 564-2691

To: Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
Cc: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Kelly, Albert[kelly.albert@epa.gov]
From: Ferguson, Lincoln
Sent: Wed 4/25/2018 1:19:29 PM
Subject: RE: APPROVAL: Request for comment on hearings

Good with me

From: Lyons, Troy
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 9:07 AM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: APPROVAL: Request for comment on hearings

Looks good

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 25, 2018, at 8:45 AM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process Below is a statement regarding hearing prep that we can use throughout the day:

“These hearings are an opportunity to reiterate the accomplishments of President Trump’s EPA which includes: working to repeal Obama’s Clean Power Plan and WOTUS, providing regulator certainty, and declaring a war on lead all while returning to Reagan-era staffing levels.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

From: Friedman, Lisa [mailto:lisa.friedman@nytimes.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 7:32 AM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: Request for comment on hearings

Hi Liz & Jahan,

I'm running a story today that advances the congressional hearings at which Mr. Pruitt will testify Thursday.

The story will include and make reference to a document that I have, entitled "Hot Topics." The story will characterize this document as outlining Mr. Pruitt's potential responses to likely questions during the hearings.

Can you tell me who drafted this document? I'd also like to get a comment on whether it accurately describes answers that Mr. Pruitt has been prepped by staff to give.

I won't attach the actual document but for purposes of verifying its validity with you, this with you it begins:

HOT TOPICS

Condo

Kevin Minoli, EPA's principal deputy general counsel, in a March 30 memo determined that the rate for 30 consecutive days would have equated to a monthly rent of \$1,500. Minoli described that as "reasonable market value." He also found it did not constitute a "prohibited gift." I would be happy to provide that memo to your staff.

These, according to the document, are some of the other topics he is prepared to address — several of which I will make reference to in the story:

SCIF; Sweeping the office; Biometric Locks; Bullet proof vehicles and tires; Office Decoration; Netjets; G7 Trip; Staffing (Raises; Samantha Dravis; Alleged Reassignment of Staff); Sue and Settle; Super Fund Task Force; Travel; First Class Travel; Morocco; Non-Commercial Flights; Homebuilders Association Hotel; Advisory Panels (membership, grants); Definers Contract; Chlorpyrifos; Climate change strategic plan; Enforcement; Funding; DOJ Funding; emails; Environmental Justice; War on Lead; IRIS; grants process; meetings with industry; Narragansett Bay; Regulatory Task Force; Reorganizations; and VERA/ViSP.

Finally, the story will point out that, according to the preparations shown in this document, Mr. Pruitt may say that other people were responsible for the bulk of the recent spending and ethics issues like frequent first class travel, the SCIF and pay raises.

I will need a comment on this by 11 a.m, and of course if you have any other comment on Mr. Pruitt's plans for testifying before Congress tomorrow I will certainly include. I'll be out of pocket for the next hour but you can also call me on my cell after 8:30 a.m. if you'd like to speak directly.

Thanks so much,

Lisa

--

Lisa Friedman

Reporter, New York Times

(202) 862-0306 office

(202) 251-2083 cell

To: Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy** Love, Kelly A.
EOP/WHO Rateike, Bradley A.
EOP/WHO **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy** Ditto, Jessica E.
EOP/WHO **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**
Carr, Charlotte V. EOP/WHO (Intern); **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**
Cc: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]
From: Konkus, John
Sent: Thur 7/20/2017 11:13:35 PM
Subject: Daily comms report

Daily Communications Report: EPA
TO: White House Cabinet Affairs Communications
FR: EPA Office of Public Affairs
DT: Thursday, July 20, 2017

Upcoming Friday, July 21, 2017

In the office, EPA HQ

Inquiries

HQ

- ABC (Andrew Greene) Seeking clarification regarding the purpose of Administrator Pruitt's reportedly scheduled visit to Australia.
- Arkansas Democrat-Gazette (Stephen Steed) EPA/States conference call on dicamba drift damage reports.
- BNA (Sylvia Carignan) Looking for a powerpoint presentation on HUD homes near superfund sites, and related data.
- BNA (Alexander Ebert) Seeking context regarding consent decrees in mid-sized cities.
- CNBC (Jeff Daniels) 9th Circuit Court's decision re: chlorpyrifos tolerance litigation.
- Washington Post (Juliet Eilperin) Request for assistance navigating OMB database to locate regulations being revised by EPA.

Regional

- Kansas City Star (Joe Robertson and Shane Sanderson) Asking about potential high volatility of diesel truck particulate filters, after a rash of fires in Kansas City lately.
- Bloomberg BNA (Alexander Ebert) EPA's use of consent decrees in mid-sized cities (like Cleveland Heights, Ohio).
- Northwest Indiana Times (Sarah Reese) Reporter requests a copy of public comments on proposed risk-based approval for the disposal of PCBs in East Chicago's CDF.
- Northwest Indiana Times (Lauren Cross) Reporter requests EPA's (and IDEM's) response to comments from East Chicago Waterway District regarding CDF facility.
- Durango Herald (J. Peterson) Inquiry re: Colorado Smelter public comment period/proposed clean up alternatives.
- Montana Standard (Susan Dunlap) Questions regarding EPA correspondence and next steps regarding Parrot Tailings removal at Butte SF site.

Top Stories

Cleveland Plain Dealer: US EPA sues Cleveland Heights, accusing city of fouling Doan, Dugway brooks with untreated stormwater:

http://www.cleveland.com/metro/index.ssf/2017/07/us_epa_sues_cleveland_heights.html

Minneapolis Star Tribune: EPA's Pruitt backs federal funding for Great Lakes cleanup as budget cuts loom: <http://www.startribune.com/epa-s-pruitt-in-departure-from-trump-budget-backs-federal-funding-for-great-lakes-cleanup/435401223/>

Washington Examiner: Low blow? Sen. Whitehouse tries to get EPA Administrator Pruitt disbarred: <http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/low-blow-sen-sheldon-whitehouse-tries-to-get-epa-chief-scott-pruitt-disbarred/article/2629269>

Need to Know Network: Democrat Senator Files Bogus Complaint Against EA Administrator: <http://ntknetwork.com/dem-senator-files-bogus-complaint-against-epa-administrator-scott-pruitt/>

Top Issues and Accomplishments

Issued Press Release: <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/photos-epa-administrator-pruitt-continues-state-action-tour-minnesota> PHOTOS: EPA Administrator Pruitt Continues State Action Tour in Minnesota

John Konkus
Deputy Associate Administrator
Office of Public Affairs
Environmental Protection Agency
Cell: (202) 365-9250

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
Cc: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Kelly, Albert[kelly.albert@epa.gov]
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Kevin Minoli, EPA's principal deputy general counsel, in a March 30 memo determined that the rate for 30 consecutive days would have equated to a monthly rent of \$1,500. Minoli described that as "reasonable market value." He also found it did not constitute a "prohibited gift." I would be happy to provide that memo to your staff.

These, according to the document, are some of the other topics he is prepared to address — several of which I will make reference to in the story:

SCIF; Sweeping the office; Biometric Locks; Bullet proof vehicles and tires; Office Decoration; Netjets; G7 Trip; Staffing (Raises; Samantha Dravis; Alleged Reassignment of Staff); Sue and Settle; Super Fund Task Force; Travel; First Class Travel; Morocco; Non-Commercial Flights; Homebuilders Association Hotel; Advisory Panels (membership, grants); Definers Contract; Chlorpyrifos; Climate change strategic plan; Enforcement; Funding; DOJ Funding; emails; Environmental Justice; War on Lead; IRIS; grants process; meetings with industry; Narragansett Bay; Regulatory Task Force; Reorganizations; and VERA/ViSP.

Finally, the story will point out that, according to the preparations shown in this document, Mr. Pruitt may say that other people were responsible for the bulk of the recent spending and ethics issues like frequent first class travel, the SCIF and pay raises.

I will need a comment on this by 11 a.m, and of course if you have any other comment on Mr. Pruitt's plans for testifying before Congress tomorrow I will certainly include. I'll be out of pocket for the next hour but you can also call me on my cell after 8:30 a.m. if you'd like to speak directly.

Thanks so much,

Lisa

--

Lisa Friedman

Reporter, New York Times

(202) 862-0306 office

(202) 251-2083 cell

To: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
From: Jackson, Ryan
Sent: Wed 11/8/2017 10:53:01 AM
Subject: Fwd: Morning Energy, presented by ExxonMobil: Fireworks expected as White, Wheeler head to EPW — Democrats demand EPA officials testify — Reading the leaves on FERC comments

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ryan Jackson
Chief of Staff
U.S. EPA
(202) 564-6999

Begin forwarded message:

From: "POLITICO Pro Energy" <politicoemail@politicopro.com>
Date: November 8, 2017 at 5:43:16 AM EST
To: <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>
Subject: Morning Energy, presented by ExxonMobil: Fireworks expected as White, Wheeler head to EPW — Democrats demand EPA officials testify — Reading the leaves on FERC comments
Reply-To: "POLITICO subscriptions" <reply-fe8a13717d6d067c7c-630326_HTML-786581600-1376319-0@politicoemail.com>

By Anthony Adragna | 11/08/2017 05:41 AM EDT

With help from Alex Guillén, Esther Whieldon, Darius Dixon and Eric Wolff

EPW TAKES UP WHEELER, WHITE NOMS: The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee will hear from two high-profile environmental nominees today: Andrew Wheeler for deputy EPA administrator and Kathleen Hartnett White to lead the White House's Council on Environmental Quality. White has a long history of controversial statements for Democrats to pull from, including her belief that "carbon dioxide is not a pollutant," her declaration that those who believe in climate change subscribe to a "kind of paganism" for "secular elites," and her 2014 blog post arguing fossil fuels helped end slavery in America.

But White's biggest liability may prove to be her position on the Renewable Fuel Standard. As ME wrote last week, Republican Sens. Deb Fischer and Joni Ernst are wary of White, who in 2013 called for repeal of the "counterproductive and ethically dubious" RFS.

A single EPW defection could tank White's nomination, and Ernst proved last month with EPA air nominee William Wehrum that she's willing to walk the walk when defending ethanol.

Ranking member Tom Carper summed up his questions for White to ME: "I just want to ask her, 'Did you really say those things?' And there's a lot of them." Ahead of the hearing, nearly 50 environmental advocates sent a letter urging the committee to oppose her nomination. "Ms. White is unfit to hold the highest environmental post in the government to advise the president on the most pressing environmental issues our nation faces," the letter, signed by groups such as 350.org, the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Sierra Club, said.

More familiar face: Wheeler, meanwhile, is a known quantity for lawmakers who have been around for a while. He worked for Sen. Jim Inhofe in various capacities until 2009, when he departed as EPW staff director. He's been an attorney and lobbyist at Faegre Baker Daniels ever since, with his most notable client being Murray Energy, whose owner has proven adept at influencing the Trump administration. ME will be watching to see whether lawmakers delve into Wheeler's work with the ethanol group Growth Energy, which was first reported by POLITICO last month.

If you go: The hearing is at 10 a.m. in Dirksen 406.

BRIDENSTINE GETS COMMITTEE VOTE: The Senate Commerce Committee votes on Oklahoma Republican Rep. Jim Bridenstine's nomination to run NASA at 9:45 a.m. along with several other nominations. He's faced sharp criticism from Democrats, including ranking member Bill Nelson who slammed him in the nomination during his confirmation hearing: "NASA is not political. The leader should not be political." The panel also votes on Neil Jacobs' selection for another top NOAA post.

WELCOME TO WEDNESDAY! I'm your host Anthony Adragna, and the American Chemistry Council's Jonathan Corley was first to identify Sen. John Hoeven as the past president of North Dakota's state bank. For today: The father of which senator served three terms of governor of their state before corruption convictions ended their career? Send your tips, energy gossip and comments to aadragna@politico.com, or follow us on Twitter [@AnthonyAdragna](https://twitter.com/AnthonyAdragna), [@Morning_Energy](https://twitter.com/Morning_Energy) and [@POLITICOPro](https://twitter.com/POLITICOPro).

BIG NIGHT FOR DEMOCRATS: The League of Conservation Voters' \$4 million investment in Virginia races paid off handsomely as Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam trounced Republican Ed Gillespie to become the commonwealth's next governor. In New Jersey, Democrat Phil Murphy (also backed by green groups) decisively beat Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno for the governorship. In Flint, Mich., Mayor Karen Weaver survived a recall attempt by a wide margin. And Democrat Manka Dhingra appeared poised to win a Washington state Senate seat, effectively handing control of the entire state government to her party in a special election that drew millions in outside spending.

DEMOCRATS: IT'S TIME! More than 10 months after his confirmation, Senate and

House Democrats are officially fed up with EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt's absence from congressional oversight hearings. After calling the lack of agency witnesses "unacceptable" during a Tuesday hearing, Energy and Commerce ranking member Frank Pallone demanded Chairman Greg Walden hold oversight hearings on EPA's review and management of chemicals under the revised Toxic Substances Control Act. "The Committee bears a responsibility to the American public to make sure EPA is protecting human health and the environment," he wrote, joined by senior committee Democrats Paul Tonko and Diana DeGette.

Not alone: All 16 Democrats on the House Science Committee sent their own letter to Chairman Lamar Smith demanding Pruitt come testify "as soon as possible," pointing out Gina McCarthy came before the full panel just four months after confirmation. "Not only is such oversight routine, but as a public official Administrator Pruitt has an obligation to address his conduct and management of EPA," they wrote.

And Carper too: "I wonder what my friend John Barrasso would have said if Gina McCarthy had refused to come before our committee for months? I wonder what my Republican EPW colleagues would have said if our committee hadn't held a single oversight hearing after a Democratic administration had issued multiple environmental executive orders and was the subject of several ongoing investigations? I heard them push for transparency for eight years, but suddenly there's silence over the last eight months."

TELL ME HOW YOU REALLY FEEL ABOUT THE DOE RULE (AGAIN!): Reply comments were due at FERC Tuesday night, and there was no less passion in this set of filings than in the first round two weeks ago. But ME was hard-pressed to see if anyone had really budged from their positions. FirstEnergy's comments started with a refrain that was almost poetic. "This proceeding is not about picking fuel supply winners and losers. This proceeding is not about the reliability of natural gas pipelines... This proceeding is not about the Polar Vortex....," former FERC general counsel Bill Scherman wrote on the company's behalf. Instead, the company pressed for its own resiliency tariffs that would serve as a Band-Aid until new market rules were crafted. "Simply put, the imminent closure of resilient generation presents a clear and present danger to the Nation," Scherman wrote, echoing the call of Energy Secretary Rick Perry. "If the Commission does not act now, our national security will be put at risk."

Where FirstEnergy downplayed the usefulness of the 2014 "polar vortex," Murray Energy argued the critics just don't get it. "During the Polar Vortex, the country was relying on an unacceptably high percentage of interruptible gas-fired generation," the company said. There's been too much talk as it is, Murray said, and "FERC appears to have lost its moorings." Murray's filing even refers to an article by House Science Chairman Lamar Smith to tally how the federal government has repeatedly created energy subsidies with everything from tax policy to R&D funding.

Among those who tried to find middle ground was PJM itself, a critic and central target of Perry's plan, arguing that FERC should approve an alternative proposal that instructs all the grid operators to report back with new pricing or tariff proposals within 180 days. It also

suggests creating a new docket aimed at defining resilience.

SOLAR FOR PUERTO RICO: The Solar Foundation, along with a host of companies and the Clinton Foundation, is launching an industry-wide push to get the lights back on in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Initial priorities will be restoring electricity to two food markets in San Juan and 62 rural medical clinics around the island. More on the project, Solar Saves Lives, available [here](#).

**** Presented by ExxonMobil:** We're collaborating with FuelCell Energy on a novel idea to use fuel cells to capture carbon at natural gas power plants, and in the process reduce emissions and increase electrical output. This technology could be a game changer in addressing the world's growing need for energy, while also reducing the impact on the environment. [Learn more](#). **

HYDROPOWER BILL STREAMS ONTO FLOOR: House lawmakers are expected today to consider [H.R. 3043 \(115\)](#), which would revamp the licensing process for hydropower projects. Ahead of the vote, utility and labor groups sent a [letter](#) encouraging support for what they called "a moderate proposal developed with bipartisan input" and warned "the current regulatory environment is placing hydropower at risk."

MODERATE CLIMATE REPUBLICAN HEADS FOR THE EXITS: South Jersey Republican Rep. [Frank LoBiondo](#), one of the few congressional GOPers to land environmental group endorsements in recent years, [will retire](#) from Congress. With LoBiondo and Rep. [Dave Reichert](#) departing at the end of this Congress, Reps. [Chris Smith](#) and [Leonard Lance](#) will be the two remaining House Republicans that backed cap and trade legislation in 2009.

LET'S KICK AGAIN? Chatter's already getting louder that Congress may have to consider another kick-the-can extension of government funding by Dec. 8 to keep the lights on, but top Appropriators aren't throwing in the towel yet, Pro Budget & Appropriations Jennifer Scholtes and Sarah Ferris [report](#). "So, hopefully, if we consider one, it will be very, very short," Appropriations Chairman [Rodney Frelinghuysen](#) told them. Others say it's too early to give up. "I don't think we even need to be thinking about a CR," says [Hal Rogers](#), who endured tough spending negotiations many times in his six years of chairing the House Appropriations panel.

TRUMP RELATIVE MOVES UP AT DOE: Kyle Yunaska, brother-in-law to Eric Trump, seems to be climbing the ladder at the Energy Department's Energy Policy and Systems Analysis office recently, adding the title of chief of staff to his resume, in addition to his senior adviser role. A DOE source told ME that Sean Cunningham, the head of EPSA, made the announcement in a staff email last week. Yunaska joined DOE early this year as a member of the "beachhead" team. His sister, Lara, married the president's son in 2014. (Greenwire first reported the move.)

ZINKE HIRES FORMER NAVY SEALS TO KEY ROLES: Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke has hired former Navy Seal Mike Argo as deputy chief of staff and former SEAL

Captain Rick May to head up the agency's focus on increasing recreation opportunities on public land. Speaking at a webcast honoring veterans event in Interior's Washington headquarters, Zinke, who is himself a former SEAL, said "we're bringing recreation back."

MARKING ON UP: Nine bills are on the House Natural Resources Committee mark up agenda today, but most of the attention will be on the SECURE American Energy Act H.R. 4239 (115). Among other provisions, the bill would give more oil and gas permitting power to the states, create an offshore oil and gas revenue program for East Coast drilling and roll back Obama-era offshore drilling rules. ME hears the measure may be fast-tracked to the floor as quickly as next week. Also of note: H.R. 2907 (115) from Rep. Scott Tipton, which would require an all-of-the-above quadrennial federal onshore energy production strategy.

PANELS LOOKS AT GEOENGINEERING LATEST: Two House Science subcommittees today take a look at the latest technologies and possibilities concerning geoengineering, in which humans attempt to alter the worldwide climate system in effort to avoid human-caused climate change. The committee will hear from experts on reducing the total sunlight hitting the earth and pulling carbon from atmosphere. But ahead of the session, nearly two dozen leading proponents warn the committee in a letter that geoengineering should not be viewed as a substitute for swift action to curb greenhouse gases that are fueling climate change. "Geoengineering is not a silver bullet, and treating it as one could greatly increase already severe climate change risks," they wrote. The hearing kicks off at 10 a.m. in Rayburn 2318.

MAIL CALL! DON'T EXPAND CCS CREDITS: More than 40 environmental groups released a letter Tuesday urging lawmakers not to include an expansion and extension of the Section 45Q tax credit for carbon capture and sequestration in an emerging tax package. A second letter warned efforts to subsidize CCS technologies are "false solutions" to climate change and impose significant burdens on communities on the front lines.

CHANGE COURSE! Sixty-two members of Congress, led by Rep. Bill Foster, asked Pruitt to reverse a policy instituted last week barring any scientists receiving agency funds from serving on scientific advisory boards. Letter here.

NOT TO BE LEFT OUT: Representatives from the hydropower, biomass power, waste-to-energy and biogas industries sent a letter to the top Republican tax writers asking them to "provide parity and a level playing field for all renewable energy technologies" as they work on the tax package. HR1 "would extend the same tax treatment to fiber-optic solar energy, fuel cells and small wind energy property that is afforded solar technology under current law," they write. "However, the bill fails to provide equal treatment for hydropower, biomass power, waste-to-energy and biogas."

COMMERCE SET TO DO ITS BIODIESEL DUTY: The Commerce Department is expected to announce a final decision on its countervailing duties and anti-dumping cases against Argentine and Indonesian imports of biodiesel. Commerce has already started collecting the duty after making a preliminary determination that both countries were undercutting U.S. biodiesel.

EPA SEEKS REMAND OF PARTS OF COAL ASH RULE AHEAD OF

ARGUMENTS: EPA on Tuesday asked the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals to remand key parts of the coal ash rule to the agency for reconsideration ahead of Nov. 20 oral arguments that could see the case put on ice. The court in September said it would not put the case on hold indefinitely while EPA reconsiders the rule, though it did order attorneys for all sides to be prepared to discuss abeyance at arguments. In a new motion, EPA asks that five specific parts of the rule be remanded without being vacated, meaning they would remain in place while EPA reworks them. Because it is reconsidering the rule, EPA argued, its attorneys "will likely be unable to represent EPA's present position on these issues at oral argument."

Four of the provisions are related to challenges brought by industry groups: rules for temporary coal ash piles; EPA's rules for inactive ponds; a lack of a risk-based compliance option; and a provision dealing with large piles of coal ash intended for "beneficial use" in products like wallboard. The fifth provision, dealing with regulation of legacy ponds, was raised by environmental groups. The industry challengers had no problem with the remand request, but greens plan to object to their provision being remanded.

APPROVED: The California State Water Resources Control Board green lighted a 10-year plan for adding new wildlife habitat and curbing toxic dust from the Salton Sea lake in Southern California, Pro's Esther Whieldon reports.

PERRY SPEAKS... ON TAX OVERHAUL: Even as he attends meetings this week in Paris, Energy Secretary Rick Perry released an op-ed in Syracuse, N.Y.'s local paper Tuesday strongly backing Republican tax overhaul efforts. "Americans deserve a low tax climate and responsible regulation to spur the economic and energy revolution we have been waiting for," the former Texas governor wrote.

NOT MINCING WORDS: Actor Alec Baldwin didn't hold back on his dislike of Pruitt during an interview with *Entertainment Weekly*. "He's done more damage to one department than anyone in American history," Baldwin, who plays Trump on SNL, said. "It's like being in a vegetarian restaurant and the chef decides he's only gonna cook steak, to insist everyone eat a meal that's abhorrent to them."

QUICK HITS

- Severe air pollution declared public health emergency in Delhi, India. ABC News.
- France backpedals on pledge to cut reliance on nuclear power. AP.
- Fresh From Deluge, Miami Weighs Bonds to Gird for Climate Change. Bloomberg.
- Kinder Morgan Canada denied expedited appeal for oil pipeline. Reuters.
- GOP tax bill would end deduction for wildfire and earthquake victims — but not recent

hurricane victims. [Los Angeles Times](#).

HAPPENING TODAY

9:45 a.m. — Senate Commerce Committee holds [vote](#) on the Bridenstine nomination and others, Dirksen 106

10:00 a.m. — The House Science Committee's Energy Subcommittee and Environment Subcommittee hold a [joint hearing](#) on "Geoengineering: Innovation, Research, and Technology," Rayburn 2318

10:00 a.m. — [Markup](#) on Offshore-Onshore Energy Bill, 8 Additional Measures, House Natural Resources Committee, 1324 Longworth

10:00 a.m. — Senate Environment and Public Works Committee holds [hearing](#) on White and Wheeler nominations, Dirksen 406

10:30 a.m. — API hosts press call on latest efforts to reform the Renewable Fuel Standard, RSVP: press@api.org

12:15 p.m. — EPW Democrats hold press conference on environmental nominees, Senate Swamp

2:00 p.m. — Rep. Keith Ellison hosts [briefing](#) on zero waste and environmental justice, Cannon 122

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To view online:

<https://www.politicopro.com/tipsheets/morning-energy/2017/11/fireworks-expected-as-white-wheeler-head-to-epw-025437>

Stories from POLITICO Pro

EPA deputy nominee Wheeler represented ethanol group [Back](#)

By Alex Guillén | 10/18/2017 03:47 PM EDT

Andrew Wheeler, the nominee for EPA deputy administrator, worked for the ethanol group Growth Energy this year, according to his financial disclosure documents.

Wheeler, an attorney at Faegre Baker Daniels, was previously known to lobby for coal producer Murray Energy, among several other companies, as revealed in lobbying disclosures. But his [financial disclosure](#) shows Wheeler provided "strategic advice and counseling" rather than lobbying services to Growth Energy.

Growth Energy hired FBD for lobbying earlier this year, according to [records](#), but Wheeler was never named on those disclosures.

"We hired Faegre Baker Daniels for lobbying and consultant help on renewable fuels issues. Andrew Wheeler has not lobbied on our behalf but has provided consultant services," Growth Energy spokeswoman Jenni Roberson said in an email. Wheeler did not return a request for comment today.

Growth Energy was one of the groups that successfully sued EPA over its 2014-2016 Renewable Fuel Standard volumes. It has also opposed EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt's recent move to potentially weaken biodiesel requirements, a proposal that has angered several key corn state Republican senators and threatened to hold up several other EPA nominees.

The financial disclosure shows Wheeler also provided advice and counsel, but not lobbying work, to International Paper, Archer Daniels Midland and General Mills. Previously reported lobbying clients included Xcel Energy, Bear Head LNG and Energy Fuels Resources.

WHAT'S NEXT: Wheeler was nominated earlier this month and has yet to have a nomination hearing in the Senate.

To view online [click here](#).

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Northam beats Gillespie in Virginia governor's race [Back](#)

By Gabriel Debenedetti | 11/07/2017 05:59 PM EDT

Democrat Ralph Northam was elected governor of Virginia on Tuesday in a sweeping victory that defied the conventional wisdom of a tightening race.

The lieutenant governor's victory joins Democrat Phil Murphy's win in New Jersey's gubernatorial race to hand Democrats new hope in the Donald Trump era.

After a bruising race against former Republican National Committee chairman Ed Gillespie, Northam outran Hillary Clinton in a state she carried by 5 points while losing the presidency in November 2016. A series of late-campaign controversies hitting Northam had

Republicans cautiously optimistic that Gillespie could close the gap and pull off an upset, but Democrats rode a wave of anti-Trump backlash and satisfaction with outgoing Gov. Terry McAuliffe's administration.

"It was said that the eyes of the nation are now on the commonwealth," Northam said in his victory speech. "Today, Virginians have answered and spoken. Virginians have told us to end the divisiveness, that we will not condone hatred and bigotry, and to end the politics that have torn this country apart."

Murphy, a former U.S. ambassador, defeated Kim Guadagno, New Jersey's lieutenant governor, to replace unpopular Republican Gov. Chris Christie. Murphy led the race from the start by double digits.

The pair of off-year governors races is traditionally read as a bellwether for the next year's midterm elections, but this year the results — particularly in Virginia — are also likely to be read as referenda on the state of each party's national well-being in the age of Trump.

Democrats had eyed the race nervously, as an opportunity to both demonstrate political momentum and help the party dig out from a historic low in terms of governorships. Democrats currently have just 15 compared to Republicans' 34 (Alaska Gov. Bill Walker is an independent), so party officials had for months seen flipping the New Jersey seat and retaining Virginia's as top priorities. Come January, they will hold 16.

"This was a vote for an inclusive Virginia," said former Rep. Tom Perriello, who lost to Northam in the primary but went on to endorse him and help lead his party's charge in the House of Delegates, where Democrats on Tuesday elected the first Latina members of the House of Delegates and a transgender candidate. "Gillespie went all-in on an identity politics agenda, and we rejected it."

Near tears with excitement, Perriello sounded a bullish note on his party's future.

"We're seeing the Prop 187 of Virginia, and probably of America," he said, referring to the famous California ballot proposition targeting illegal immigration that helped Republicans win in 1994 but has been credited with turning state voters against the Republican Party ever since.

Gillespie sought to strike a balance between engaging moderates with talk of jobs and taxes and firing up his base by running ads on illegal immigration and sanctuary cities — which don't exist in Virginia — and cultural touchstones like Confederate monuments and NFL anthem protests. Gillespie did not initially home in on those subjects, but they became a bigger part of his campaign after he nearly lost the June Republican primary to Trump's former Virginia campaign chairman.

Trump, who tweeted in support of Gillespie before the election, quickly turned on him after the race was called.

"Ed Gillespie worked hard but did not embrace me or what I stand for," Trump tweeted, before referencing Republican special election wins earlier this year. "Don't forget, Republicans won 4 out of 4 House seats, and with the economy doing record numbers, we will continue to win, even bigger than before!"

Democratic turnout in Virginia's primary skyrocketed from previous years' levels. Party leaders including former President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden swooped into the state to back Northam in the final month.

"The initial goal was for Democrats to nationalize the race and make it about the president; our initial goal was to localize the race and make it about Virginia," Virginia Republican Party chairman John Whitbeck said before Tuesday's vote. "If we win, it will say that a mainstream conservative like Ed Gillespie can win in an era of uncertainty. What it says about the Democrats is they have a lot of soul-searching to do: I don't think they know what their message is, their agenda is."

Though Trump loomed over the race, Gillespie did not actually appear with him in Virginia — the first time in years a sitting president did not cross the Potomac River to campaign in the governor's race. "Ralph Northam will allow crime to be rampant in Virginia. He's weak on crime, weak on our GREAT VETS, Anti-Second Amendment and has been horrible on Virginia economy," Trump tweeted during his Asia trip on Tuesday. Gillespie appeared multiple times with Vice President Mike Pence, who is more popular among conservatives and perceived as less likely to fire up Democrats who can't stand the president.

In New Jersey, Murphy was heavily favored in large part because of the unpopularity of Christie. Guadagno, Christie's deputy, tried tacking away from Christie, but the former presidential candidate's abysmal 14 percent approval rating — according to a late October Suffolk poll — proved to be a serious drag on his hoped-for successor.

While Guadagno tried tarnishing Murphy's image by painting him in ads as soft on illegal immigration, Murphy — a former Goldman Sachs executive and Democratic National Committee finance chairman — relied heavily on support from local and national-level Democrats to pad his comfortable margin.

In Virginia, Democrats also aimed to peel back the GOP advantage in the state legislature. The party hopes that Northam's win, combined with continued down-ballot gains, will put Democrats in position to exert more influence over the next round of political map-drawing in Virginia at the end of this decade.

Democrats also won the closely watched mayoral races in Manchester, New Hampshire, and St. Petersburg, Florida.

To view online [click here](#).

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LoBiondo to retire from Congress [Back](#)

By Elena Schneider | 11/07/2017 02:51 PM EDT

New Jersey Rep. [Frank LoBiondo](#), a senior Republican on the Armed Services Committee, will not run for reelection in 2018, he announced Tuesday.

LoBiondo cited committee term-limits for his departure, but the 12-term incumbent also took parting shots at partisan gridlock in Congress.

"There is no longer middle ground to honestly debate issues and put forward solutions," LoBiondo said in a statement. "... Those of us who came to Congress to change Washington for the better through good governance are now the outliers. In legislating, we previously fought against allowing the perfect to become the enemy of the good. Today a vocal and obstinate minority within both parties has hijacked good legislation in pursuit of no legislation.

LoBiondo said that his decision isn't "electoral" and that he was "very confident voters would again reelect me" in 2018 had he decided to run for reelection.

The decision opens a battleground district in southern New Jersey that LoBiondo has held easily since 1994. New Jersey's 2nd District backed President Donald Trump with 50.6 percent of the vote to Hillary Clinton's 46 percent in 2016. But former President Barack Obama also won the seat twice with between 53 and 54 percent of the vote.

Harry Hurley, a New Jersey talk radio host, [first reported](#) the news of LoBiondo's retirement.

LoBiondo raised \$117,000 in the last fundraising quarter, among the lowest totals reported by House Republican incumbents, sparking speculation that he would retire instead of running for reelection. Though the district has 147,000 registered Democrats to 132,000 registered Republicans, LoBiondo has managed to easily and consistently win reelection thanks in part to strong labor ties.

National Democrats have actively recruited state Sen. Jeff Van Drew, a conservative-leaning Democrat, in years past, but he's declined to run. Democrat Tanzie Youngblood, a retired teacher, already launched her bid to challenge LoBiondo in July. Democrats also floated retired judge Ray Batten as a potential candidate for the district.

Republican operatives in the state floated two potential GOP candidates to replace LoBiondo: State Assemblyman Chris Brown, who's on the ballot for a state Senate seat on Tuesday, and former Atlantic County Sheriff Frank Balles.

LoBiondo's retirement adds another major opportunity for Democrats to pick up a House seat in New Jersey. Already, two normally well-entrenched New Jersey GOP incumbents in

the northern half of the state, [Rodney Frelinghuysen](#) and [Leonard Lance](#), have attracted several credible Democratic challengers who are raising substantial amounts of campaign cash.

LoBiondo, a member of the moderate Tuesday Group caucus, is the latest in a string of what Rep. [Charlie Dent](#) (R-Pa.) called "governing-wing" Republicans who have opted against running for reelection in 2018. Dent, Florida Rep. [Ileana Ros-Lehtinen](#), Washington Rep. [Dave Reichert](#) and Michigan Rep. [Dave Trott](#) have all announced their plans for retirement.

Matt Friedman, Jake Sherman and Alex Isenstadt contributed to this report.

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Pruitt to reconsider parts of 2015 coal ash rule [Back](#)

By Alex Guillén | 09/14/2017 04:15 PM EDT

EPA will reconsider key portions of the 2015 coal ash rule, according to a [letter](#) from Administrator Scott Pruitt to industry officials released by Earthjustice.

Two petitions were filed in May by AES Puerto Rico and the Utility Solid Waste Activities Group, an umbrella group whose members include the Edison Electric Institute, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, American Public Power Association and more than a hundred utilities and related companies.

Pruitt's letter does not specify which parts of the rule he plans to reconsider, but both USWAG and AES identified specific issues with the regulation.

[USWAG's petition](#) asked that pending deadlines be pushed back and called for the rule to be changed in the wake of a December 2016 law changing the enforcement scheme in order to accommodate new management options based on site-specific risk analyses rather than the original "burdensome, inflexible, and often impracticable requirements." USWAG also argued that various executive orders from President Donald Trump dealing with regulations justify cracking the rule open.

[AES' petition](#) focused on requirements for how power plants store their coal ash piles before they are moved off site to be disposed of or to make products such as concrete and wallboard.

Oral arguments at the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals over the rule are currently scheduled for Oct. 17, but EPA is likely to ask the case be put on hold while it reconsiders the rule.

WHAT'S NEXT: Pruitt will initiate a formal reconsideration process. Any actual changes

to the rule will have to go through public comment and will be open to legal challenge.

To view online [click here](#).

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Court delays coal ash arguments to November [Back](#)

By Alex Guillén | 09/27/2017 04:54 PM EDT

The D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals today [granted a one-month delay](#) in arguments over EPA's 2015 coal ash rule following Administrator Scott Pruitt's [decision to reconsider](#) key parts of the regulation.

Arguments had been scheduled for Oct. 17, but a three-judge panel ordered them delayed until Nov. 20.

The judges ordered EPA to reveal by Nov. 15 which portions of the rule will be reconsidered "and setting forth with specificity the timeline for reconsideration." In addition, all sides, including industry and environmental challengers, are supposed to file new briefs by Oct. 11 addressing whether the new [state-based coal ash permitting program](#) that passed Congress as part of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act at the end of 2016 affect the broader lawsuit at all. And the court told attorneys to be ready at arguments to discuss whether a longer delay in the lawsuit is appropriate, opening up the possibility of further delay.

The court set 90 minutes' worth of arguments in total, split into four sections: Three dealing with various legal and technical challenges to the rule and one on whether the case should be delayed longer.

The case will be heard by Judges Karen LeCraft Henderson, a George H.W. Bush appointee, and two Obama appointees, Judges Patricia Millett and Cornelia Pillard.

WHAT'S NEXT: The parties must submit briefs regarding the permitting program by Oct. 11. Oral argument is scheduled for Nov. 20.

To view online [click here](#).

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California board approves 10-year Salton Sea water mitigation plan [Back](#)

By Esther Whieldon | 11/07/2017 06:31 PM EDT

The California State Water Resources Control Board today approved the state's 10-year plan for adding new wildlife habitat and curbing toxic dust from the Salton Sea lake in Southern California.

The plan addresses expectations the 350-square-mile lake will shrink by one-third as the Imperial Irrigation District, other water users and states continue cutting back on water usage amid diminishing Colorado River supplies.

The lake is an ecological haven for migratory birds, but its receding shoreline is polluted with chemicals from farming irrigation drainage, and the resulting dust from the dry lake bed has caused asthma problems in nearby communities.

The plan is also key to Imperial agreeing to a voluntary water conservation compact among lower Colorado River basin states to preserve water levels at Lake Mead, the river's most important reservoir. Under a deal that expires this year, Imperial has been putting extra water into the Salton Sea in exchange for the state's pledge to install mitigation projects — a commitment California has failed to meet. Imperial has been reluctant to agree to further water cuts without assurances the state will actually act.

The plan outlines the state acreage goals for habitat creation and dust suppression, requires it to come up with a long-term mitigation plan for the Salton Sea by 2022, and would have board staff create a correction plan if the state falls more than 20 percent short of any annual goal.

WHAT'S NEXT: Californians will vote on a ballot measure in June 2018 to issue \$200 million in bonds for Salton Sea projects.

To view online [click here](#).

[Back](#)

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Yes, very	Somewhat	Neutral	Not really	Not at all

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This email was sent to jackson.ryan@epa.gov by: POLITICO, LLC 1000 Wilson Blvd. Arlington, VA, 22209, USA

To: Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy] Love, Kelly A.
EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy] Rateike, Bradley A.
EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy] Ditto, Jessica E.
EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Carr, Charlotte V. EOP/WHO (Intern) [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Cc: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Wilcox,
Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Hewitt,
James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]
From: Konkus, John
Sent: Tue 8/1/2017 9:36:36 PM
Subject: EPA Comms Reports
Daily Communications Report 8_1_17.docx

Kaelan and Team: Attached is today's daily communications report.

Thank you,

John Konkus

Environmental Protection Agency

Deputy Associate Administrator for Public Affairs

Mobile: (202) 365-9250

To: Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy** Love, Kelly A.
EOP/WHO [redacted] eike, Bradley A.
EOP/WHO [redacted]; Ditto, Jessica E.
EOP/WHO **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy** lynn, Matthew J.
EOP/WHO [redacted] Carr, Charlotte V. EOP/WHO
(Intern [redacted] **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy** Magyarits, Caroline S.
EOP/WHO [redacted] v]; Hurley, Carolina L.
EOP/WHO **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy** Henning, Alexa A.
EOP/WHO [redacted] v].
Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
Cc: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Ferguson,
Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Abboud,
Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Ford,
Hayley[ford.hayley@epa.gov]; Munoz, Charles[munoz.charles@epa.gov]
From: Konkus, John
Sent: Mon 8/28/2017 9:37:59 PM
Subject: EPA Report
Daily Communications Report 8 28 17.docx

Kaelan and Team: Attached is our daily communications report.

Thank you,

John Konkus

Environmental Protection Agency

Deputy Associate Administrator for Public Affairs

Mobile: (202) 365-9250

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Cc: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Ferguson,
Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Abboud,
Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Ford,
Hayley[ford.hayley@epa.gov]; Munoz, Charles[munoz.charles@epa.gov]
From: Konkus, John
Sent: Wed 8/16/2017 10:01:06 PM
Subject: EPA Reports
Daily Communications Report 8 16 17.docx
2017-08-16 EPA Report for WH Comms Planning.docx

Kaelan and Team: Attached are our weekly and daily reports.

Thank you,

John Konkus

Environmental Protection Agency

Deputy Associate Administrator for Public Affairs

Mobile: (202) 365-9250

Daily Communications Report: EPA

TO: White House Cabinet Affairs Communications

FR: EPA Office of Public Affairs

DT: **Wednesday, August 16, 2017**

Upcoming Thursday, August 17, 2017

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Inquiries

HQ

- BNA (Brain Dabbs); Bloomberg (Meenal Vamburkar) Inquiry regarding RFS exemptions and request for updated exemption numbers.
- CNN (Rene Marsh); Washington Post (Juliet Eilperin) Seeking administrator Pruitt's response to the president's Charlottesville comments.
- Daily Caller (David Sivak) Highway projects under National Environmental Policy Act review.
- Reuters (Dena Aubin) Seeking comment on effluent limitations rulemaking considerations.
- SBS (Australian TV Network) (Jan Francis) Requesting Interview with the Administrator regarding climate change

Regional

- Ohio Valley Resource/ WKMS (Nicole Erwin) Inquiry regarding dicamba drift concerns in OH, WV, and KY.
- Brooklyn Paper (Lauren Gill) Reporter requesting the current schedule for completion for the Gowanus Canal Superfund cleanup.
- Los Seis de La Tarde Univisión TV (Milly Mendez) Reporter requests an interview with CEPD Director Carmen Guerrero (at CEPD) regarding landfills / solid waste and on the AES coal ash issue in Guayama and Peñuelas.

Top Stories

<http://dailycaller.com/2017/08/16/scott-pruitt-criticizes-false-narrative-on-nyts-climate-report/>
Scott Pruitt Criticizes 'False Narrative' On NYT's Climate Report

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/aug/15/the-epas-gold-king-mine-cover-up/>
The EPA's Gold King Mine cover-up

<https://www.eenews.net/climatewire/2017/08/16/stories/1060058830>
A skeptic's wish list for abolishing agency pieces

<http://dailycaller.com/2017/08/15/trumps-epa-will-rewrite-another-obama-era-rule-that-could-shutter-coal-plants/>
Trump's EPA Will Rewrite Another Obama-Era Rule That Could Shutter Coal Plants

Top Issues and Accomplishments

Issued Press Release:

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/updates-epas-ejscreen-provide-access-important-new-data>

Updates to EPA's EJSCREEN Provide Access to Important New Data

Region 2 Press Release:

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-provides-new-york-186-million-wastewater-and-drinking-water-improvements>

EPA Provides New York \$186 Million for Wastewater and Drinking Water Improvements

Region 10 Press Release:

<https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-awards-11-million-idaho-protect-drinking-water-sources>

EPA awards \$1.1 million to Idaho to protect drinking water sources: Grant supports state efforts to clean up leaking underground petroleum storage tanks

To: Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Love, Kelly A.
EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; eike, Bradley A.
EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Ditto, Jessica E.
EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; lynn, Matthew J.
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(Intern [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Magyarits, Caroline S.
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[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Cc: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Ferguson,
Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Abboud,
Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Ford,
Hayley[ford.hayley@epa.gov]; Munoz, Charles[munoz.charles@epa.gov]
From: Konkus, John
Sent: Tue 8/15/2017 9:28:42 PM
Subject: EPA Report
Daily Communications Report 8 15 17.docx

Kaelan and Team: Attached is our daily report.

Thank you,

John Konkus

Environmental Protection Agency

Deputy Associate Administrator for Public Affairs

Mobile: (202) 365-9250

To: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]
Cc: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]
From: Ferguson, Lincoln
Sent: Tue 6/6/2017 4:00:02 PM
Subject: Re: Something we should push on social and twitter

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 6, 2017, at 11:08 AM, Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov> wrote:

Nice.

From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Tuesday, June 6, 2017 10:37 AM
To: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>
Subject: Something we should push on social and twitter

<http://arsquared.org/pruitt-goes-on-offense-in-msnbc-interview-fact-checks-misinformed-hosts/>

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: 202.309.0934
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

To: Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]
Cc: Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHC [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy] Rateike, Bradley A. Kennedy, Adam R.
EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
EOP/WHO
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 9:31:45 PM
Subject: RE: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer "Quits" Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Here was the email from WaPo ...

From: Davidson, Joe [mailto:joe.davidson@washpost.com]
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 12:55 PM
To: Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Hello EPA,

I'm writing a Federal Insider column today about Elizabeth Southerland, director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA's Office of Water. Her resignation is effective today. I'd like to get EPA reaction to her departure comments.

In a farewell message to her colleagues, Southerland says:

*the proposed FY18 budget cuts to state, tribal and federal environmental programs would result in thousands of jobs lost in the short term, in EPA, state and tribal governments, and the private environmental consulting firms which support those governmental agencies"

*the major budget cuts to EPA, state and tribal environmental programs and the potential repeal of many existing regulations and science documents is not a cooperative federalism approach. It is an industry deregulation approach based on abandonment of the polluter pays principle that underlies all environmental statutes and regulations. When the federal government abandons the polluter pays principle, it will be up to the states, tribes and local government to decide how much of the polluters bills they will ask their residents to take on. The best case for our children and grandchildren is that they will pay the polluters bills through increased state taxes, new user fees, and higher water and sewer bills. The worst case is that they will have to live with increased

public health and safety risks and a degraded environment."

Southerland told me that EPA suffers from "the temporary triumph of myth over truth." She added: "Without giving EPA staff the chance to brief him on 30 different rules, the Administrator made the decision to grant industry requests, stay compliance dates, and reconsider the rules. He also issued press releases stating that these rules are job killers causing economic harm, indicating his reconsideration may be biased."

Does EPA have any comment on her remarks? I am on deadline.

Thank you.

Best,

Joe

Joe Davidson, columnist

The Washington Post

1301 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20071

202.334.6415 – work

202.580.9552 – cell

joe.davidson@washpost.com

Twitter: @JoeDavidsonWP

Website: wapo.st/JoeDavidson

From: Wilcox, Jahan

Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 5:30 PM

To: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO

<Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>

Cc: Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO <Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy>; Rateike, Bradley A.

EOP/WHO <Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy>; Kennedy, Adam R. EOP/WHO

<Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy>

Subject: RE: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer “Quits” Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Hey guys we pitched this because the same Washington Post reporter who wrote about Mike Cox is writing about this. My guess is that once WaPo writes about Elizabeth Southland, the story will get legs so we wanted to get in front of it all instead of having another controversy like the Mike Cox stuff.

Below is my pitch.

Earlier this spring, there was an EPA employee who was eligible for retirement and claimed he was quitting because of Trump and his proposed budget, when in reality he was just retiring because he was eligible for his pension. Of course the liberal Washington Post and other outlets jumped on the news.

●■■■■■■■■■ **The Washington Post: EPA staffer leaves with a bang, blasting agency policies under Trump – April 7, 2015**

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/wp/2017/04/07/epa-staffer-leaves-with-a-bang-blasting-agency-policies-under-trump/?utm_term=.bf260e6e228a

Well another employee is doing the same thing and she’s claiming that due to President Trump’s proposed budget she is quitting, but it’s widely known that presidential budgets – no matter what party you are from – never get rubberstamped by Congress. Below is the WaPo inquiry along with along with why the employee is claiming to retire.

Additionally, would also point out that last year Elizabeth Southerland made \$249,000. For comparison, a Senator or Congressman’s salary is \$174,000 and the average American makes \$44,000 according the Census Bureau.

Curious if you would be interested in writing about this, because the left and environmentalists will make a big deal out of nothing.

“It’s hard to believe that Elizabeth Southerland is retiring because of a budget proposal and not because she’s eligible for her government pension. We wish Elizabeth Southerland the best in her retirement and the EPA will continue to re-focus on our core mission of protecting our air, land and water.” EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

OFF-THE-RECORD RESEARCH ...

In 2016, Elizabeth Southerland made \$249,000.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2015, Elizabeth Southerland made \$183,300.

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In 2013, Elizabeth Southerland made \$179,700.

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(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2011, Elizabeth Southerland made \$215,640.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

From: Graham, Amy

Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 5:26 PM

To: Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO <[REDACTED] Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy >]; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>

Cc: Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO <[REDACTED] Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy >]; Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO <[REDACTED] Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy >]; Kennedy, Adam R. EOP/WHO <[REDACTED] Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy >

Subject: RE: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer “Quits” Because Of Trump (But Is Actually

Retiring)

Jahan has the background on this and will share momentarily.

From: Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 5:23 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>
Cc: Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Kennedy, Adam R. EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Subject: RE: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer "Quits" Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Looping in Amy as well

From: Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 5:22 PM
To: 'Bowman, Liz' <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Cc: Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Kennedy, Adam R. EOP/WHO [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Subject: FW: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer "Quits" Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Hi Liz,

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Thanks,

Kelly

From: RNC War Room [mailto:Warroom@gop.com]

Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 5:06 PM

Subject: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer “Quits” Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Another EPA Staffer “Quits” Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Hot Air

Jazz Shaw

July 31, 2017 – 4:01 PM

<http://hotair.com/archives/2017/07/31/another-epa-staffer-quits-trump-actually-retiring/><

Remember when Mike Cox, a climate change adviser at the EPA, “quit” his job because of his disagreements with the Trump administration and sent in a “scathing letter of resignation?” As it turned out, Cox was actually retiring and had been eligible for retirement for some time.

Well, that pattern is continuing this week. Elizabeth Southerland, the director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA’s Office of Water, unceremoniously quit today. Her claimed reasons included problems with the President’s proposed budget and how much was being allocated to the EPA. This is a rather frivolous reason because, as has been well documented in the past, whatever budget the President initially submits is little more than a wish list which rarely carries any weight. Congress controls the power of the purse, so her anger should be directed at them if the funding is not to her liking.

But as I indicated above, most of this appears to be a smokescreen anyway. Southerland is eligible for retirement and it would be surprising indeed if she chose to eschew her government employee retirement benefits in some sort of principled stand. Those benefits should be impressive to say the least, since they are always based on the time in service and best salary of the worker. In the case of Ms. Southerland, she was doing quite well for herself on the taxpayer dime. In 2016 she earned just shy of a quarter million dollars, and has done similarly well (if a bit short of that) in other years dating back to at least 2011 with the EPA when she earned \$215K. Good work if you can get it to be sure, so if she elects to walk out the door and forfeit her benefits because of her moral revulsion to the agency providing them to her, expect to see a column here from me glorifying her for her remarkable moral fortitude. (But I’m not holding my breath.)

For their part, the EPA doesn't seem to be buying the "retirement" story either, but are still wishing Ms. Southerland a gracious bon voyage. This is from EPA spokesman Jahan Wilcox.

"It's hard to believe that Elizabeth Southerland is retiring because of a budget proposal and not because she's eligible for her government pension. We wish Elizabeth Southerland the best in her retirement and the EPA will continue to re-focus on our core mission of protecting our air, land and water."

A generous and gracious farewell. I, for one, will wait to see if Elizabeth proves me wrong and turns down all those sweet taxpayer funded retirement benefits. Perhaps she could donate them all to the federal government's general fund to help out the less fortunate.

Disclaimer: The Republican National Committee provided the above article as a service to its employees and other selected individuals. Any opinions expressed therein are those of the article's author and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the RNC.

To: Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]
Cc: Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Kennedy, Adam R. EOP/WHO[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 9:29:40 PM
Subject: RE: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer "Quits" Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

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Cc: Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO <[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]>; Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO <[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]>; Kennedy, Adam R. EOP/WHO <[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]>

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"It's hard to believe that Elizabeth Southerland is retiring because of a budget proposal and not because she's eligible for her government pension. We wish Elizabeth Southerland the best in her retirement and the EPA will continue to re-focus on our core mission of protecting our air, land and water."

A generous and gracious farewell. I, for one, will wait to see if Elizabeth proves me wrong and turns down all those sweet taxpayer funded retirement benefits. Perhaps she could donate them all to the federal government's general fund to help out the less fortunate.

Disclaimer: The Republican National Committee provided the above article as a service to its employees and other selected individuals. Any opinions expressed therein are those of the article's author and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the RNC.

To: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Tue 8/15/2017 3:11:54 PM
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL:

Thanks.



From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2017 11:11 AM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

otherwise, gtg

From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2017 10:50 AM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: FOR APPROVAL:

“Last month, Governor Dayton praised EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt for working to eliminate federal bureaucracy to state agencies and the Star Tribune applauded Pruitt’s efforts to protect the Great Lakes. Administrator Pruitt is committed to protecting Minnesota’s environment and provide Americans with regulatory certainty.” EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND ...

DFL Governor Mark Dayton praises Pruitt for working to eliminate some of the federal government’s red tape dealt to state agencies. “Gov. Mark Dayton described a meeting Wednesday with EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt as ‘productive and cordial’ and said he’s hopeful the Trump administration will eliminate some of the federal government red tape dealt to state agencies. ‘We don’t believe we need to be micromanaged by Region 5 in Chicago,’ Dayton said during a news conference following a meeting at the Capitol that lasted more than an hour. Dayton said state agencies want to establish a “collaborative and cooperative” relationship with the EPA.”

(Minnesota Public Radio, 07/19/17)

EPA's Pruitt backs federal funding for Great Lakes. "Scott Pruitt, the nation's top environmental officer, said Wednesday he endorses continued federal funding for a landmark cleanup of the Great Lakes ... 'I understand the investment that's been made historically,' said Pruitt, administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), during an interview with the Star Tribune. It's a continuing need, and we have to see that it's adequately funded.'" (Minneapolis Star Tribune, 07/19/17)

EPA's Pruitt signals welcome support for Great Lakes restoration project. "Environmental Protection Agency Secretary Scott Pruitt's visit to Minnesota last week yielded an unexpected boon for those who care about clean water. In an interview with a Star Tribune reporter, Pruitt affirmed his support for federal funding of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, which provides landmark protections for Lakes Huron, Erie, Michigan, Ontario and, most treasured by Minnesotans, Superior." (Editorial, The Star Tribune, 07/21/17)

From: Jeff Bechdel [<mailto:jbechdel@ntknetwork.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2017 9:52 AM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: Keith Ellison EPA event

Hello Mr. Wilcox,

NTK plans to cover a Keith Ellison event about "saving the EPA in Minneapolis" tonight at 7pm ET: <http://www.takeactionminnesota.org/event/community-forum-with-congressman-keith-ellison-save-the-epa/>

Just wanted to check in to see if you had any comment beforehand. Certainly fine if not, I can follow up afterward.

Thank you.

--

Jeff Bechdel

NTK Network

jbechdel@ntknetwork.com

To: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Tue 8/15/2017 2:50:00 PM
Subject: FOR APPROVAL:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Jeff Bechdel [mailto:jbechdel@ntknetwork.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2017 9:52 AM
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Thank you.

--

Jeff Bechdel

NTK Network

jbechdel@ntknetwork.com

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
Cc: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Kelly, Albert[kelly.albert@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wed 4/25/2018 2:32:11 PM
Subject: RE: APPROVAL: Request for comment on hearings

RJ – good to go? We got an 11a deadline.

“These hearings are an opportunity to reiterate the accomplishments of President Trump’s EPA which includes: working to repeal Obama’s Clean Power Plan and WOTUS, providing regulator certainty, and declaring a war on lead all while returning to Reagan-era staffing levels.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

From: Ferguson, Lincoln
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 9:19 AM
To: Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: APPROVAL: Request for comment on hearings

Good with me

From: Lyons, Troy
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 9:07 AM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Jackson, Ryan <jackson.ryan@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Kelly, Albert <kelly.albert@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: APPROVAL: Request for comment on hearings

Looks good

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 25, 2018, at 8:45 AM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Below is a statement regarding hearing prep that we can use throughout the day:

“These hearings are an opportunity to reiterate the accomplishments of

President Trump's EPA which includes: working to repeal Obama's Clean Power Plan and WOTUS, providing regulator certainty, and declaring a war on lead all while returning to Reagan-era staffing levels." – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

From: Friedman, Lisa [<mailto:lisa.friedman@nytimes.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 7:32 AM
To: Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto: Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: Request for comment on hearings

Hi Liz & Jahan,

I'm running a story today that advances the congressional hearings at which Mr. Pruitt will testify Thursday.

The story will include and make reference to a document that I have, entitled "Hot Topics." The story will characterize this document as outlining Mr. Pruitt's potential responses to likely questions during the hearings.

Can you tell me who drafted this document? I'd also like to get a comment on whether it accurately describes answers that Mr. Pruitt has been prepped by staff to give.

I won't attach the actual document but for purposes of verifying its validity with you, this with you it begins:

HOT TOPICS

Condo

Kevin Minoli, EPA's principal deputy general counsel, in a March 30 memo determined that the rate for 30 consecutive days would have equated to a monthly rent of \$1,500. Minoli described that as "reasonable market value." He also found it did not constitute a "prohibited gift." I would be happy to provide that memo to your staff.

These, according to the document, are some of the other topics he is prepared to address — several of which I will make reference to in the story:

SCIF; Sweeping the office; Biometric Locks; Bullet proof vehicles and tires; Office Decoration; Netjets; G7 Trip; Staffing (Raises; Samantha Dravis; Alleged Reassignment of Staff); Sue and Settle; Super Fund Task Force; Travel; First Class Travel; Morocco; Non-Commercial Flights; Homebuilders Association Hotel; Advisory Panels (membership, grants); Definers Contract; Chlorpyrifos; Climate change strategic plan; Enforcement; Funding; DOJ Funding; emails; Environmental Justice; War on Lead; IRIS; grants process; meetings with industry; Narragansett Bay; Regulatory Task Force; Reorganizations; and VERA/ViSP.

Finally, the story will point out that, according to the preparations shown in this document, Mr. Pruitt may say that other people were responsible for the bulk of the recent spending and ethics issues like frequent first class travel, the SCIF and pay raises.

I will need a comment on this by 11 a.m, and of course if you have any other comment on Mr. Pruitt's plans for testifying before Congress tomorrow I will certainly include. I'll be out of pocket for the next hour but you can also call me on my cell after 8:30 a.m. if you'd like to speak directly.

Thanks so much,

Lisa

--

Lisa Friedman

Reporter, New York Times

(202) 862-0306 office

(202) 251-2083 cell

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]; Kelly, Albert[kelly.albert@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wed 4/25/2018 12:45:11 PM
Subject: APPROVAL: Request for comment on hearings

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Below is a statement regarding hearing prep that we can use throughout the day:

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Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 7:32 AM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: Request for comment on hearings

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Thanks so much,

Lisa

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